



## DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING MOTORCYCLE SAFETY PROGRAM

### **Becoming a Washington State Motorcycle Instructor**

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Washington State Motorcycle Safety Instructor! In response to a growing number of motorcycle fatalities, in 1982 the Washington State Motorcycle Safety Program (WMSP) was created within the Department of Licensing (DOL). Charged with providing outreach, training, and effective testing for riders in the state, WMSP is funded from motorcycle endorsement fees. DOL/WMSP contracts with motorcycle training providers throughout the state to provide affordable, professional, and effective motorcycle skills education programs and license endorsement testing.

These programs, whether novice, intermediate, or advanced, are facilitated by trained and certified WMSP instructors. Most instructors work as contractors for the training schools. WMSP instructors have the flexibility to work as few as three classes a year, work as full-time instructors (depending on training school policies and need), and everything in between. Instructors are united as a team in creating the finest professional, positive, and student-centered learning environments. Instructors participate in on-going professional development opportunities that focus training on the power of effective and informed choices on the road.

To become an Instructor in Washington, an Instructor Candidate Application must be submitted. Then, the candidate will register for and attend an Instructor Preparation Course (IP). IPs are typically scheduled annually and take place over four intensive weekends (Friday evening, all day Saturday, all day Sunday). IPs include classroom sessions, on-cycle components, and student teaching. As well as including basic instructor training, WMSP includes highly focused activities and instruction in creating a high challenge/low threat learning environment, communication skills to meet different student's needs, and using adult learning techniques to effectively engage student riders to be able to make better/safer choices in road.

We encourage you to explore the opportunity to become a certified WMSP Motorcycle Safety Instructor. If it looks like something that interests you, follow the eligibility and application process below.

Again, thank you for your interest in helping to make Washington rider safer, through education and licensing, by making informed and effective choices on the road!

### **Instructor Candidate Eligibility**

In order to qualify for training within a WMSP Instructor Preparation (IP) workshop, candidates must:

#### ***Having a driving record that reflects:***

- ☐ No more than three (3) moving traffic infractions within the preceding 12 months, and no more than four (4) moving traffic infractions in the preceding 24 months.
- ☐ No conviction, finding, or administrative action within the previous seven (7) years, of the following:
  - Driving under the influence
  - Physical control of vehicle under the influence
  - Drinking or open alcohol on highway
  - Disguising alcoholic beverage container

- Vehicular homicide
  - Negligent driving -First degree
  - Vehicular assault
  - A disqualification of CDL endorsement
- ☐ No involuntary driver license suspension, cancellation, revocation, or denial within the preceding 5 years.

***Meet the following requirements:***

- ☐ Be an experienced motorcyclist who owns and regularly operates a registered motorcycle.
- ☐ Possess a current and valid driver license with a motorcycle endorsement.
- ☐ Be a high school graduate, or equivalent, and be at least 21 years of age.
- ☐ Have no convictions involving a crime of violence.
- ☐ Have successfully completed a novice rider course or basic S/TEP course within 180 days prior to IP.

IPs are limited in available candidate positions. IP paperwork is processed by WMSP in order received. Upon receipt, eligibility requirements and qualifications will be verified and reviewed to determine acceptance to the program and authorization to register for an IP.

## **Instructor Candidate Application Process**

To apply for acceptance as a WMSP Instructor Candidate, candidates must submit the following:

- IP Instructor Candidate Application
- On the application indicate which scheduled IP desired
- If unable to attend a scheduled IP, indicate desire to be on a waiting list should an additional IP be scheduled to meet demand

Mail completed application to :

Washington Motorcycle Safety Program  
Department of Licensing  
PO Box #9030  
Olympia, WA 98507-9030

If accepted, to reserve a place in an IP, the candidate must submit:

- WMSP Instructor Preparation Registration Form
- \$200 tuition check made out to D.O.L.

Mailed to:

Washington Motorcycle Safety Program  
Department of Licensing  
P.O. Box 3907  
Seattle, WA 98124-3907

Upon verification of all eligibility requirements, and receipt of Registration form and tuition, a verification of IP registration will be sent, along with course materials and a pre-course assignment.

Candidates are encouraged, but not required, to use a local training school as a reference and support in this process.

Application and registration materials can be found at: [www.dol.wa.gov](http://www.dol.wa.gov) [\*Steps To Become An Instructor\*](#)